REMARKS

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1 and 6 because of the recitation of the word "lessening." Applicant has amended the claims to recite the word "lessened" as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant has canceled claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer thereby rendering the objection to this claim moot.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 to have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,676,240 to Walker ("Walker") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,208,235 to Trontelj ("Trontelj").

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Walker and Trontelj, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,356,197 to Patterson *et al.* ("Patterson").

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Walker and Trontelj, and further in view of U.S. PG Pub. No. 2002/0175806 to Marneweck *et al.* ("Marneweck").

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,585,345 to Kosugi ("Kosugi") in view of Trontelj.

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kosugi and Trontelj, and further in view of Marneweck.

Applicant traverses the above rejections of claims 1-3 and 5-7. Applicant cancels claims 4 and 8 without prejudice or disclaimer thereby rendering their rejections moot.

Trontelj in combination with the other references does not disclose or suggest a low power consumption mode keeping ***lessened*** functions of the controller ***for increasing an impedance of the controller to reduce an electrical current value of the antenna*** as long as the memory circuit is in operation, as recited in claim 1. The Examiner relies on Trontelj to disclose these features.

Trontelj discloses a resonant radio frequency identification (RFID) tag wherein the antenna of the tag comprises two coils or inductors and a switch (column 3, lines 34-39). The tag may be selectively decoupled from its environment by placing the switch in a position, whereby the currents flow through the two inductors in opposite directions such that the field generated by the current flowing through one inductor is essentially canceled by the field generated by the current flowing through the other inductor (column 3, lines 39-48).

In other words, Trontelj does not increase the impedance of the controller to ***reduce an electrical current*** value of the antenna, as claimed. Rather, Trontelj ***relies on current flow*** in opposite directions through the two inductors of the antenna to decouple the RFID tag from its environment. Since Trontelj relies on current flow in the two inductors of the antenna for proper operation, reducing the current in the antenna as claimed by applicant would result in improper operation of Trontelj's invention. Thus, no motivation exists to use Trontelj in combination with any of the above-noted references cited by the Examiner.

In view of the above, claim 1 is patentable over the combined references. Claim 6 contains features similar to the features recited in claim 1 and is therefore patentable for similar

reasons. Claims 2, 3, 5 and 7, which depend from one of claims 1 and 6, are patentable over Trontelj in combination with the various references at least by virtue of their dependencies.

New Claims

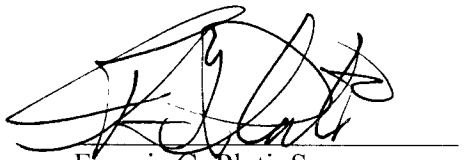
Applicant has added new claim 9 which depends from claim 1. Claim 9 is supported in the specification, at least, for example, at paragraph 0068. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. Claim 9 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence from claim 1

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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